

Public Law 57

CHAPTER 108

AN ACT

June 6, 1953
[H. R. 2327]

To authorize the Post Office Department to designate enlisted personnel of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard as postal clerks and assistant postal clerks, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That enlisted personnel of the Army of the United States, the United States Navy, the Air Force of the United States, the United States Marine Corps, and the United States Coast Guard, and the reserve components thereof, may, upon selection by the Secretaries of the departments concerned, be designated by the Post Office Department as Army postal clerks and assistant Army postal clerks, Navy postal clerks, and assistant Navy postal clerks, Air Force postal clerks and assistant Air Force postal clerks, Marine Corps postal clerks and assistant Marine Corps postal clerks, and Coast Guard postal clerks and assistant Coast Guard postal clerks, as appropriate, who shall be authorized to receive and open all pouches and sacks of mail addressed to Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard post offices, stations, vessels, and installations, to make proper deliveries of such mail, to receive matter for transmission in the mails, to receipt for registered matter (keeping an accurate record thereof), to keep and have for sale an adequate supply of postage stamps, to make up and dispatch mails and to perform any other postal duties as may be authorized by the Postmaster General, and in accordance with such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the appropriate Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard authority. Each postal clerk or assistant postal clerk mentioned herein shall take the oath of office prescribed for members of the postal service, and shall give bond to the United States in such penal sum as the Postmaster General may deem sufficient for the faithful performance of his duties as such postal clerk or assistant postal clerk: *Provided*, That the Secretary concerned may waive the giving of bond in the case of such postal clerks and assistant postal clerks.

SEC. 2. The Post Office Department shall be reimbursed annually by the department concerned, in an amount of money equal to the funds and the value of other accountable postal stock embezzled by, or lost through the negligence, errors, or defalcations on the part of unbonded postal clerks, unbonded assistant postal clerks, persons acting in those capacities, or commissioned or warrant officers of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard who have been designated custodians of postal effects by the appropriate commanding officer, and funds expended by the Post Office Department in payment of claims arising from negligence, errors, losses, or defalcations by such unbonded postal clerks, assistant postal clerks, persons acting in those capacities, or commissioned or warrant officers of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard who have been designated custodians of postal effects by the appropriate commanding officer.

SEC. 3. Postal clerks and assistant postal clerks appointed under this Act, shall be amenable in all respects to the discipline of their respective services, except that, as to their duties as such clerks, the commanding officer having jurisdiction over the post office, station, vessel, or installation at or on which they are stationed, and who exercises jurisdiction over such clerks, shall require them to be governed by the Postal Laws and Regulations of the United States and such supplemental postal directives and regulations as may be prescribed by appropriate authorities. Whenever necessity arises therefor, any assistant postal clerk may be required by the appropriate commanding officer to perform the duties of a postal clerk.

Armed Forces
personnel.
Designation as
postal clerks, etc.

Oath of office.

Bond.

Reimbursement.
Losses by un-
bonded clerk.

Regulations.

Termination of
bond.

SEC. 4. Any bond given by Army, Navy, or Coast Guard mail clerks or assistant mail clerks or by Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard postal clerks or assistant postal clerks, may be terminated by the Secretary of the Department concerned, but such termination shall not affect the liability of any person or surety thereunder for losses or shortages occurring prior to such termination.

Recovery of
losses.

SEC. 5. (a) The Secretaries of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Treasury shall take such action as may be available to them to effect recovery of amounts paid under the provisions of this Act from the persons responsible for the losses or shortages.

Appropriation.

(b) There are hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Repeals.

SEC. 6. The Act of August 21, 1941 (ch. 392, 55 Stat. 656), as amended by the Act of June 30, 1947 (ch. 170, 61 Stat. 211; 39 U. S. C. 138); paragraph 23 of the heading, Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, of the Act of May 27, 1908 (ch. 206, 35 Stat. 417-418), as amended (39 U. S. C. 134); section 3 of the Act of August 24, 1912 (ch. 389, 37 Stat. 554), as amended (39 U. S. C. 135), and all other laws or parts of laws to the extent that they may be inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed.

Approved June 6, 1953.

Public Law 58

CHAPTER 112

JOINT RESOLUTION

June 13, 1953
[S. J. Res. 76]

Designating the week beginning June 14, 1953, as "Theodore Roosevelt Week".

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the week beginning June 14, 1953, is hereby designated as "Theodore Roosevelt Week" in honor of our former President. The President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such week by paying tribute to the achievements and memory of the late Theodore Roosevelt.

Approved June 13, 1953.